



# News Release

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For more information:  
Winnie Comfort  
Pete McAleer  
609-292-9580

For immediate release:  
Dec. 9, 2015

## **Superior Court Judge Francis J. Vernoia Appointed to Appellate Division**

Superior Court Judge Francis J. Vernoia will join the Appellate Division effective Dec. 28, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner announced today.

The Appellate Division of the Superior Court is New Jersey's intermediate appellate court. The 32 Appellate Division judges hear appeals from decisions of the trial courts, the Tax Court and state administrative agencies. The Appellate Division generally decides between 6,000 and 6,500 appeals and about 8,500 motions each year.

Judge Vernoia has served as a Superior Court judge in the Monmouth Vicinage's criminal and family divisions since February 2010. He has served on temporary assignment to the Appellate Division since October.

Prior to joining the Monmouth Vicinage, Judge Vernoia worked as a partner in the Newark law firm of Genova, Burns & Vernoia, where he managed the firm's complex commercial litigation group and handled civil litigation dealing with commercial, construction, employment and civil rights matters. He previously served as an assistant prosecutor in the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and began his legal career in 1979 as an associate in the firm Zazzali, Zazzali & Whipple. Judge Vernoia holds a bachelor's degree from LaSalle College and a law degree from Seton Hall University School of Law.

"I've been fortunate to work with so many great people and great minds throughout my legal career," said Judge Vernoia. "I want to thank Chief Justice Rabner for this new challenge and new opportunity to serve the public."

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